

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Office Action and Status of the Application

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed on August 12, 2003.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 10 and 13-21 are currently pending in this application. Claims 10, 20, and 21 are currently amended. Claims 13 and 15-19 are original and claim 14 was previously presented. Claims 10 and 13-21 remain under consideration, and of these, claims 10, 20, and 21 are independent. Claims 1-9 and 12-13 have been cancelled. There are no new claims. No new matter is added.

The Office Action rejects claims 10, 15, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,531,880 (Xie et al.). The Office Action rejects claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Xie et al. in further view of U.S. Patent 5,210,472 (Casper et al.). Claims 13, 14, 17, and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

II. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Actions rejects claim 10, 15, 16, and 18 as being anticipated by Xie et al. Xie et al. is understood to teach a method for producing thin, uniform powder phosphors for field emission display screens. The phosphor powder layer is planarized by depositing a phosphor layer on an anode which placed between two optical flats. The optical flats are mounted in a mechanical press, and an opposing force is applied the optical flats. The force squeezes the flats together and, resultantly, flattens the phosphor powder onto the anode. See Xie et al. in the abstract.

Xie et al. discloses dipping the anode with the deposited phosphor into a silicate solution. See Xie et al. at column 6, lines 16-18. However, Xie et al. admits that dipping the anode may produce an excess of phosphor particulates. See Xie et al. at column 6, lines 23-27. Xie et al. do not disclose simultaneously applying a layer of phosphor and semiconductive binder material.

Claim 10 has been amended to more clearly define the Applicants' invention. An object of the present invention is a uniform application of phosphor that avoids an excessive build up of

phosphor. The simultaneous application of a binder with a phosphor layer produces a highly uniform layer of phosphor that is resistant to slough off.

Xi et al. and do not teach or suggest “simultaneously applying a layer of phosphor and semiconductive binder material,” as required by claim 10. Therefore, claim 10 distinguishes over the cited art and should be allowed.

Since claims 13-19 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 10, claims 13-19 should be allowed for at least the same reasons as provided for claim 10.

II. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 20 and 21 as being unpatentable over Xie et al. in further view Casper et al. Casper et al. pertains field emission display’s emitter-to-grid voltages. The voltages are raised to a level sufficient to cause emission by grounding pixel emitters at each row and column intersection. The emitter base electrode of each emitter node is coupled to the grid via a current-limiting transistor. See Casper et al. in the abstract. Casper et al. are silent with respect to the application of phosphor and binders.

Claim 20 and 21 have been amended to more clearly define the Applicants’ invention. The simultaneous application of phosphor and binder recited in claims 20 and 21 enjoys the same advantage as described for claim 10. Applicants submit that the combination of Xie et al. and Casper et al. would fall short of the claimed invention. Specifically, Xie et al. and Casper et al. do not disclose “simultaneously applying a layer of phosphor and semiconductive binder material” as set forth in claims 20 and 21. Accordingly, claims 20 and 21 distinguishes the cited art.

IV. Conclusion

For at least the reasons stated in these Remarks, Applicants believe all pending claims to be in allowable condition. The current Amendment is intended to clarify the scope of the claimed invention. Applicants reserve the right to argue other distinctions if it ever becomes necessary. A favorable examination result is earnestly solicited. Questions or issues arising in this matter should be directed to Applicants’ representatives, listed below.

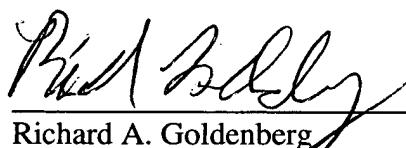
Appl. No. : 10/042,749
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Atty. Docket No. 100718.409 MIC-54CON

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-0219 the fee of \$950.00 to cover the cost of the requested three month extension of time. No other fees are believed to be due in connection with this paper. However, please charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, that may be due in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

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